



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 4/11/2007

GAIN Report Number: JA7026

Japan

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

Update on Status of Review of Key Food Additives 2007

Approved by:

Rachel Nelson
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Rachel Nelson

Report Highlights:

Japan recently released an update on the progress of the reviews of the 46 food additives that were slated in 2003 to be evaluated by Japan's Food Safety Commission. Progress has been very slow, considering these substances are all recognized as safe and widely used throughout the world.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Tokyo [JA1]
[JA]

Progress of evaluation of food additives that have been proven safe and are widely used in the world

Attachment 3-2
April 2007

Substance name	Request for evaluation	Food Safety Commission		MHLW		
		Evaluation by expert committee ¹	Notification of result ²	Discussion by subcommittee ³	Closing date for comments ⁴	Date of designation as food additives
Isobutanol	21 Nov 2003	24 Mar 2004(fin.)	27 May 2004	23 Apr 2004(fin.)	19 Aug 2004	24 Dec 2004
2-ethyl-3, (5 or 6)- dimethylpyrazine		3 Mar 2004(fin.)	27 May 2004	8 Apr 2004(fin.)	26 Jul 2004	24 Dec 2004
2,3,5,6-tetramethylpyrazine		3 Mar 2004(fin.)	27 May 2004	8 Apr 2004(fin.)	26 Jul 2004	24 Dec 2004
Calcium stearate	4 Mar 2004	20 May 2004(fin.)	29 Jul 2004	24 Jun 2004(fin.)	21 Oct 2004	24 Dec 2004
Propanol	21 Nov 2003	24 Mar 2004 20 May 2004 28 Jul 2005(fin.)	9 Sep 2004	26 Aug 2004(fin.)	14 Dec 2004	24 Feb 2005
Nitrous oxide	20 Oct 2003	17 Dec 2003 5 Oct 2004(fin.)	9 Dec 2004	17 Dec 2004(fin.)	19 Feb 2005	22 Mar 2005
Isopropanol	15 Dec 2003	24 Mar 2004 9 Apr 2004 8 Sep 2004 5 Oct 2004(fin.)	9 Dec 2004	28 Oct 2004(fin.)	4 Mar 2005	28 Apr 2005
Hydroxypropyl cellulose	16 Aug 2004	22 Dec 2004(fin.)	10 Mar 2005	24 Feb 2005(fin.)	14 Jun 2005	19 Aug 2005
Isoamylalcohol	5 Nov 2004	14 Jan 2005(fin.)	17 Mar 2005	24 Feb 2005(fin.)	14 Jun 2005	19 Aug 2005
2,3,5-trimethylpyrazine						
Amyl alcohol						
Natamycin	20 Oct 2003	9 Jan 2004 16 Nov 2004 26 Jan 2005(fin.)	6 May 2005	24 Mar 2005(fin.)	7 Sep 2005	28 Nov 2005
Acetaldehyde	21 Nov 2003	3 Mar 2004 9 Apr 2004 27 Apr 2004 23 Feb 2005 13 Apr 2005(fin.)	21 Jul 2005	23 Jul 2005(fin.)	12 Oct 2005	16 May 2006
2-Ethyl-3-methylpyrazine	7 Mar 2005	14 Jul 2005(fin.)	18 Aug 2005	28 Jul 2005(fin.)	19 Dec 2005	16 May 2006
5-Methylquinoxaline		14 Jun 2005 22 Jul 2005(fin.)	22 Sep 2005	27 Oct 2005 24 Nov 2005(fin.)	26 Apr 2006	12 Sep 2006
Butanol						
Ammonium alginate	28 Mar 2005	2 Dec 2005	30 Mar 2006	23 Mar 2006(fin.)	5 Sep 2006	26 Dec 2006
Potassium alginate		14 Dec 2005(fin.)				
Calcium alginate						

Substance name	Request for evaluation	Food Safety Commission		MHLW		
		Evaluation by expert committee ¹	Notification of result ²	Discussion by subcommittee ³	Closing date for comments ⁴	Date of designation as food additives
2-Methylbutanol	19 Dec 2005	14 Jul 2006 11 Aug 2006(fin.)	12 Oct 2006	8 Dec 2006 16 Jan 2007 (Fin.)	22 May 2007	
Isobutyraldehyde	19 Dec 2005	28 Jun 2006 14 Jul 2006 11 Aug 2006 13 Sep 2006 13 Oct 2006(fin.)	7 Dec 2006	8 Dec 2006 16 Jan 2007 (Fin.)	22 May 2007	
Butyraldehyde	19 Dec 2005	19 Dec 2006 26 Jan 2007(fin.)	22 Mar 2007	20 Mar 2007(fin.)		
Polysorbate 20, 60, 65, 80	8 Oct 2003	29 Oct 2003 27 Apr 2004 28 Jul 2004 23 Mar 2007(fin.)				
Nisin	20 Oct 2003	9 Apr 2004 16 Nov 2004 26 Jan 2005 (under consideration)				

Acetylated distarch adipate	26 May 2005	23 Mar 2005 17 May 2005 Under consideration				
Acetylated distarch phosphate						
Acetylated oxidized starch						
Starch sodium octenylsuccinate						
Hydroxypropyl starch						
Hydroxypropyl distarch phosphate						
Phosphated distarch phosphate						
Monostarch phosphate						
Distarch phosphate						
Oxidized starch						
Starch acetate						
Dimagnesium phosphate	23 Mar 2005	31 May 2005 23 Jun 2005 14 Jul 2005 11 Aug 2005 13 Sep 2005 13 Oct 2005 26 Nov 2005 Under consideration				

Substance name	Request for evaluation	Food Safety Commission		MHLW		
		Evaluation by expert committee ¹	Notification of result ²	Discussion by subcommittee ³	Closing date for comments ⁴	Date of designation as food additives
Polyvinylpyrrolidone	30 Jun 2005	13 Sep 2005 13 Oct 2005 26 Nov 2005 19 Dec 2005 26 Jan 2007 Under consideration				
Calcium silicate	15 Aug 2005	23 Feb 2007 23 Mar 2007 Under consideration				
Magnesium silicatesynthetic	16 Aug 2005	23 Feb 2007 23 Mar 2007 Under consideration				
Sodium aluminum silicate	15 Aug 2005	23 Feb 2007 Under consideration				
Calcium aluminum silicate	16 Aug 2005	23 Feb 2007 Under consideration				
Calcium ascorbate	3 Oct 2005	23 Mar 2007 Under consideration				
Magnesium hydroxide	9 Mar 2006					
Calcium saccharin	22 Mar 2006					
Ammonium L-glutamate	22 Mar 2006					
Sodium stearyl-2-lactylate	6 Feb 2007					
Potassium lactate	6 Feb 2007					
Calcium sorbate	13 Mar 2007					
Valerolactone	13 Mar 2007					
Isobutylaldehyde	13 Mar 2007					

Footnotes:

1. Date when discussion was conducted by the expert committee.
2. Date when the evaluation result was filed with the MHLW.
3. Date when discussion was conducted by the Subcommittee on Food Additives under the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council.
4. Closing date for comment on WTO notification.